

their liberty. In any case they are not to be pitied because they are deserters who have disobeyed the King's ordinances.

We should spare the Chaouanons but little because they are always trying to disturb the nations that are our allies. A savage of the post of Pianguichias, who was in winter quarters, was attacked by three Chaouanons; he received a gun-shot wound and a blow from a tomahawk, but escaped notwithstanding.

Another savage of the same nation was also attacked by the Chaouanons within sight of the post. He took to flight and lost only his gun and his blanket.

The English are taking as much trouble to seduce the nations on the side of the Illinois as everywhere else.

They gave a message to the people of the Vermilion village.<sup>35</sup> Their chief, named le Maringouin, would not receive it. He replied to his people that he knew no other father than the French; that he wished to have no other. They threw the message at him saying: "*Take it and do what thou wishest with it.*"

Monsieur de St. Clin was informed at the same time that la Mouche noire, a chief of the Ouyatanons, said to his people: "*I am going to the English; I will bring some of them here to the village and, on my return, I will go to the Illinois to ascertain their last dispositions regarding the French and the English, namely which of the two they desire as father; and, if they speak to me of the English, the matter will soon be concluded.*"

Monsieur de St. Clin heard indirectly that the English are continuing to get la Mouche noire and la Peau blanche to work at corrupting those nations under the pretext of the fur-trade. The Peorias reported to him that la Peau Blanche went last winter to them to induce them to go there. Some of his peo-

<sup>35</sup> A town of the Piankashaw (Peanguicha), on the Vermillion River, a stream in a county of the same name, in eastern Illinois, that enters the Wabash some distance above Vincennes.—ED.